

XXXVIII. *Descriptions of some new Exotic Coleoptera.*

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[Read 5th March and 2nd April, 1849.]

Family CARABIDÆ.

Sub-family SCARITIDES.

Genus CARENUM, Bonelli.

The two Australian species of this genus, described below, are supplemental to a monograph on the Australian *Scaritides*, published by me in the first volume of the "Arcana Entomologica."

Carenum viridipenne, Westw.

C. prothorace subquadrato, angulis posticis rotundatis; nigrum, læve, nitidum, prothoracis lateribus viridi tenue marginatis; elytris viridibus, punctis duobus prope basin alterisque duobus ante apicem notatis; tibiis anticis extus bidentatis.

Long. corp. lin. 8.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia ad littora fluvii Mundarra dicti.

In Mus. Dom. F. Bond.

Careno smaragdulo, Hope (Westw. Arc. Ent. vol. i. pl. 21, fig. 4), affine, sed minus, angustius, punctis 4 elytrorum distinctum. Caput mediocre nigrum, inter oculos lineis duabus paullo curvatis impressis, antice et postice furcatis, spatio intermedio convexo, puncto impresso intus furcam anticam tuberculoque utrinque ad latera labri transversa denticulati, punctisque duobus aliis utrinque ad marginem internum oculorum. Prothorax subquadratus, longitudine e quinta parte latior, angulis anticis obtusis, posticis rotundatis; tenue marginatus, disco linea tenui media longitudinale impresso, alteraque transversa paullo ante marginem posticum, impressioneque parva utrinque versus eundem marginem. Elytra ovalia, thoracis latitudine, ad costam depressa, glabra, læte viridescencia, disci medio nigro; punctis duobus setigeris prope humeros alterisque duobus pone medium; lateribus marginatis serieque punctorum intra marginem. Pedes breves, robusti; tibiis anticis extus bidentatis, latere interno sub dente priori inermi.

Carenum intermedium, Westw.

C. nigrum, nitidum, subangustum, paralellum, capite utrinque linea curvata impressa notato, pronoto linea media impresso (in medio disci fere obsoleta), elytris 4-punctatis, tibiisque anticis bidentatis.

Long. corp. lin. $9\frac{1}{4}$; lat. prothoracis lin. $2\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat in Adelaida, Novæ Hollandiæ. Dom. Smith.

In Mus. Westw.

C. tinctilato affine, at angustius. Caput prothorace paullo angustius, læve, nitidum; angulis anticis supra basin antennarum rotundato-prominentibus. Clypeus antice recte truncatus, utrinque tuberculo conico porrecto, ad latera labri. Labrum brevissimum, transversum, subtrilobatum. Vertex inter oculos utrinque linea curvata impressa notatus, ad basin externum mandibularum antice extensa, lineam tenuem vix distinctam (furcam anticam formante) antice emittenti, punctisque duobus setigeris ad marginem internum oculorum. Prothorax quadratus; angulis posticis rotundatis, seu potius semi-ovalis, angulis anticis obtusis, lateribus tenue marginatis, punctis tribus parvis intus marginem, impressione transversa ante apicem, impressionibus duabus fere indistinctis intus angulos posticos, disco linea tenui longitudinale impressa (ante basin et apicem abbreviata, at in medio disci fere oblitterata). Elytra elongato-ovalia, satis angusta, in medio parum latiora, convexa, lævia, nitida, marginata; lateribus anguste cyaneo-tinctis, et serie punctorum impressis, singulo etiam ad basin punctis tribus transverse positis, intermedio minori, punctisque duobus majoribus impressis, uno versus basin, altero ante apicem. Pedes satis graciles, tibiis anticis latis, extus bidentatis.

I am indebted to W. P. Smith, Esq., of Caernarvon, a very assiduous Coleopterist, for my specimen of this and other rare insects from Adelaide.

Family HELOPIDÆ.

Genus novum. PROPHANES, Westw.

Corpus alatum, oblongum, depressum, pedibus subelongatis.

Caput mediocre, clypeo transverso, angulis anticis rotundatis, supra basin antennarum extensis, labro transverso, instrumentis cibariis ut in *Helopidibus* genuinis; palporum maxillarium articulo apicali securiformi; labialium subsecuriformi

parvo. Mandibulæ apice bidentato, intus incisione profunda membrana tecta. Antennæ mediocres, articulis duobus basilibus brevibus, 3-tio omnium longissimo; ultimis brevioribus, submoniliformibus, non aut vix incrassatis. Prothorax latior quam longus, antice angustior, disco parum convexo. Elytra oblongo-subovata, subdepressa, parum rugosa, lateribus fere parallelis ad basin prothorace latiora, ultra medium paullo dilatata, apicibus sensim attenuatis. Pedes satis elongati, simplices, tarsis heteromeris haud dilatatis. Prosternum pone basin pedum anticorum extensum in fossula triangulari mesosterni subreceptum, metasternum satis elongatum, postice inter trochanteres posticos emarginatum et ante apicem in medio profunde impressum.

This genus approaches very near to *Cyphaleus*, Hope (Westw. Arc. Ent. vol. i. pl. 12, fig. 1), but is distinguished by its more flattened form and less rugose surface. The species have somewhat the appearance of large narrow metallic-coloured species of *Colymbetes*. They are exclusively natives of Western and Southern Australia.

Sp. 1. *Prophanes aculeatus*, Westw. (Pl. XXIV. fig. 4.)

Pr. niger, elytris nigro-æneis, nitidis, irregulariter punctatis, lineisque subelevatis notatis, apicibus acuminatis, prothoracis angulis anticis acute porrectis, disco bi-impresso.

Long. corp. lin. 12.

Habitat apud Swan River, Novæ Hollandiæ.

In Mus. Melly.

Antennæ subbreves, articulis apicalibus parum latioribus. Prothorax transversus, lateribus fere rectis, versus angulos posticos paullo rotundatis, angulis anticis elongato-aculeatis, lateribus marginatis, disco tenuissimè punctato, in medio bi-impresso, utrinque etiam ad marginem posticum fossula parum profunda instructo. Elytra ad apicem sensim attenuata et singulo in spinam terminalem producta, disco singuli lineis tribus parum elevatis glabris, interstitiis punctatis.

Sp. 2. *Prophanes metallescens*, Westw. (Pl. XXII. fig. 5, and details).

Pr. niger, nitidus, punctatus, elytris æneo purpureoque tinctis, apicibus truncatis, angulis externis truncaturæ spinosis, prothoracis angulis anticis acute porrectis, angulis posticis oblique truncatis.

Long. corp. lin. 11.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia, ad littora fluvii Mundarra dicti.
In Mus. Dom. F. Bond.

Præcedenti minor, et angustior, antennis pedibusque gracilioribus et paullo longioribus. Caput magis elongatum, oculis permagnis in occiput fere conjungentibus. Palpi maxillares articulo ultimo magis securiformi. Antennæ graciles, articulis ultimis præcedentibus brevioribus at non crassioribus. Prothorax lateribus profunde marginatis, fere rectis, angulis anticis valde et acutissime porrectis, angulis posticis oblique truncatis, disco punctato, margineque postico utrinque impressione ovali parum profunda notato. Elytra lateribus valde marginatis, apice truncata, angulis externis truncaturæ spinâ acutâ armatis; punctata, punctis versus basin majoribus, nigris, purpureo-nitidis, regione scutellari æneo, apicibusque late viridi-cæruleis (colore purpureo fasciam latam ex humeris ad apicem suturæ formanti). Antennæ et pedes nigri, tibiæ 4-posticæ intus pilis nigris vestitæ.

Sp. 3. *Prophanes simplex*, Westw.

Pr. niger, nitidus, sub lente tenuissime punctatus, elytris parum æneo-tinctis, prothorace elytrisque ad apicem inermibus.

Long corp. lin. 10.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia, Port Philip.

In Mus. Hope et Westw.

Caput sub lente punctatum, impressione transversa ante oculos clypeo profunde emarginato, emarginatura membranacea, antennis palpisque piceis. Prothorax transversus, lateribus marginatis, parum rotundatis, antice angustior; disco sub lente punctato et sparsim setoso, utrinque pone oculos et ante scutellum bi-impresso. Scutellum basi læve. Elytra prothorace latiora, lateribus subparallelis, ad apicem acuminata, haud spinosa, parum convexa; sub lente punctatissima et longitudinaliter costata, costis numerosis at fere indistinctis. Corpus subtus cum pedibus nigrum, sparsim punctatum et setosum.

Sp. 4. *Prophanes striato-punctatus*, Westw.

Pr. niger, nitidus, elytris cæruleo-nigris, profunde striato-punctatis; prothorace et elytris inermibus. Magnitudo *Pr. simplicis*.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia. Melborne.

In Mus. Melly.

Genus novum. PLATYPHANES, Westw.

Prophani affine. Corpus latum, sub-semiglobosum. Caput parvum. Labrum breve, transversum. Mentum postice angustatum, maxillarum basin haud tegens. Palpi labiales articulo ultimo valde securiformi. Antennæ breves, articulo 3tio longo, apicalibus sensim incrassatis. Prothorax transversus, antice angustior, lateribus curvatis marginatis, margine postico in medio parum producto. Elytra lata, valde convexa, breviter sub-cordata, apice inermia. Prosternum postice prominulum, in mesosterni processu bifido receptum. Corpus subtus fere planum.

Platyphanes gibbosus, Westw. (Pl. XXII. fig. 6, and details.)

Pl. supra nigro-æneus, nitidus, capite et pronoto lævibus, elytris ad basin magis cæruleis; singulo striis 14 punctatis, ante apicem evanescentibus; corpore subtus nigro nitido.

Long. corp. lin. 11.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia.

In Mus. Melly.

Platyphanes vittatus, Klug, MS.

Pl. sub-globosum, viride, metallicum, elytrorum singulo vitta lata rufa nitida metallica cum sutura parallela, ornato.

Long. corp. lin. 7.

Habitat Adelaida, Novæ Hollandiæ.

In Mus. Melly.

Family BRENTHIDÆ.

Genus TAPHRODERES, Schönh.

Taphroderes distortus, Westw. (Pl. XXII. fig. 3, and details.)

Elongatus, gracillimus, subcylindricus, glaberrimus, lævissimus; totus rufo-castaneus, pronoto et vitta suturali elytrorum nigricantibus, elytris apice truncatis, striis duabus impressis juxta suturam, alteraque intra marginem lateralem, disco sub-obsoleto striato punctato; mandibulis maris difformibus, dextra parva apice truncata, basi supra dente recurvo armata; sinistra capitis longitudine, curvata, apice valde obtuso, margine supero dente obtuso denteque altero interno versus basin armata.

Long. corp. lin. 7 (mandibulis maris inclusis).

Habitat in Natalia.

In Mus. Westwood (♂). Mus. Brit. (♂ ♀).

Male.—The head of the male is nearly equal to the prothorax in length. The eyes are situated at about one-third of the distance from its anterior edge, and behind the eyes it is rather swollen, being again contracted close to the prothorax into a rather narrowed very short neck. The anterior extremity of the head is triangular and deeply excavated, the excavation terminated behind by a slightly curved and raised ridge, at the sides of which, very near the outer base of the mandibles, the antennæ are fixed; which are scarcely longer than the head, with the four terminal joints wider and larger than the intermediate ones. The mandibles are very remarkable in their construction. The right one is about one-fourth of the head in length, slightly curved, and seen laterally almost square, with the end truncate and rather emarginate; the upper basal angle is produced into a strong obtuse tooth extending backwards over the base of the right antenna. The left mandible is as long as the head, compressed, curved, deflexed at its extremity, which is obtuse, angulated on the upper edge with a strong obtuse tooth beyond the middle, and with a deep notch forming a strong tooth on the inside. The maxillæ are very minute, formed of a single elongate internally ciliated lobe, narrowed to the tip and angulated at the base, from which arise the small sub-conical and apparently only three-jointed palpi, the terminal joint of which is the smallest, and pointed. I have not been able to determine the form of the mentum, or to discover any traces of the labial palpi. A minute horny piece, emarginate on its inner edge, and with a small bundle of setæ in the middle of the outer edge, terminated also by several shorter setæ, was observed within the mouth on dissection, and may be the mentum injured by the knife.* The prothorax is about two-thirds of the length of the elytra; it is highly polished, with a slightly raised ring in front, behind which it is rather constricted, owing to the lateral excavations for the reception of the fore legs, common to the species of *Taphroderes*, as well as to other insects which reside, as these insects doubtless do, in cylindrical burrows in wood. The legs are also very short,

* The structure of the instrumenta labialia in the *Brenthidæ* does not appear to have been hitherto determined. Within the mouth of *Brenthus Temminckii*, the largest species of the family, I have observed a small horny piece, dilated and deeply bifid in front, the undersurface of the head being terminated by a deeply emarginate horny plate, which is doubtless the extremity of the jugulum, the small bifid piece being most probably the representation of the mentum destitute of labium and labial palpi. In *Arrhenodes litiginosus*, Dej. (Columbia), I have observed a distinct transverse mentum, narrowed at the base, rounded at the lateral angles and emarginate in front; its inner surface is clothed with fine short hairs, but I have found no trace of labium or labial palpi.

and the tibiæ are not more than half the length of the tarsi, a peculiarity which of course permits greater flexibility in the limb; the anterior femora are the thickest, but all the legs are simple, the tarsi are four-jointed and compressed, the three basal joints setose beneath, the third shortest and notched above for the reception of the base of the terminal joint, which scarcely exhibits any trace of the node at the base. The abdomen is singularly formed, the greater portion of the ventral surface being occupied by the basal joint, which is very convex. This is followed by two very short transverse joints, obliquely truncated, the terminal joint being also very short, semi-oval, and with a deep central longitudinal channel. The wings are nearly twice the length of the elytra, folded near the middle, the apical half traversed by three longitudinal veins.

The female has the head formed somewhat like that of the specimen of *Taphroderes Whitii* figured in my Cabinet of Oriental Entomology, pl. 15, fig. 6, the snout being nearly half as long as the head, and about two-thirds of its width, with the antennæ inserted at a little distance in front of the eyes; the mandibles are minute, conical, pointed at the tip, with a very small tooth on the inside. The legs are simple, and the antennæ are like those of the male.

The rarity of the species of *Taphroderes*, and the remarkable sexual differences which they exhibit, render the discovery of both sexes of another species very instructive. The specimens of *Taph. Whitii*, which I have hitherto observed, (another having been recently received by the Entomological Society from India, in the splendid collection forwarded by Captain Hutton,) nearly agree with the female of *T. distortus* in the form of snout (except that it is rather wider and the antennæ are affixed nearer to the apex than to the eyes) and also in the antennæ, peculiar excavated sides of the prothorax and tarsi; but the prothorax is strongly punctate, and the elytra are rounded at the apex and regularly punctate-striate; but the most remarkable character of *T. Whitii*, which leads at once to the idea that the specimens are males, is the elongation of the hind legs, with the strong clavation of the posterior femora.

Captain Parry's Ceylon *Taphroderes* has a still shorter and broader rostrum, rather dilated at its extremity, with the antennæ affixed about half-way between the eyes and the apex, and the hind femora are broad and compressed, with a deep notch both on the upper and lower edge: the elytra are deeply punctate-striate and the tip rounded. Compared with the specimen of *Taphroderes 4-signatus*, Buq., next to be noticed, this Ceylon insect must be

regarded as a male, especially from the shortness and breadth of the muzzle and the form of the mandibles, which is another reason for considering the specimens of *T. Whitii* to be males. The only specimen of *T. 4-signatus* which I have seen in the British Museum Collection has the muzzle much narrower than in any of the preceding insects, with the antennæ inserted at its base at some distance from the eyes; its extremity is notched, and the mandibles are minute, conical, and porrected; the legs simple, the elytra glabrous, except an impressed stria near the suture, and another within the lateral margin. This specimen, I apprehend, is a female.* All these insects are remarkable for having the fore legs more powerful than the middle ones. They are also very valuable for enabling us to determine with precision the affinities of that most remarkable insect *Calodromus Mellii*, with which they agree in the general form of the body, excavated sides of the prothorax, elongated basal joint of the abdomen and structure of the normal tarsi. The antennæ have only the three terminal joints dilated, as in *T. Whitii*, *4-signatus*, and *Westwoodii*; whilst there are four dilated joints in *T. distortus*, the muzzle is not elongated in either sex, the head not exhibiting any marked difference between them, and the abnormal condition of the hind legs is found (in a different state of development) in both sexes.

The very singular formation of the mandibles of the male of *T. distortus* may be regarded, I think, as the greatest departure from that law of symmetry which exists so universally in the limbs of the two sides of insects. That some difference of form should exist between the two opposite organs of an insect which act upon each other is not surprising. Indeed it is curious that so little attention has been paid to this difference; the mandibles, for instance, must differ to a certain extent in the position of the teeth depending upon their action upon each other, and yet we find, in general, a single mandible represented as affording the only necessary character to be derived from the examination of the mandibles. Where also the upper wings act upon each other, as in the musical organs of the *Gryllidæ*, a difference must also exist between the two organs on the opposite sides of the body. In the insect before us, however, there seems no necessity for the singular discrepancy between the two mandibles, the extremity of the left mandible extending far beyond the right one; indeed, if I had not seen more than a single specimen of the male insect, I should have considered it as a monstrosity.

* See *ante*, p. 184, for figures of the details of different species of *Taphroderes*.

Section LONGICORNES.

Genus novum. ERICHSONIA, *Westw.*

Corpus elongatum, parallelum, subcylindricum.

Caput breve, transversum, prothorace vix angustiore; facie perpendiculari, 4-carinata; clypeo in angulum inter mandibulas producto, labrum occultanti. Oculi laterales reniformes. Antennæ ante oculos prope mandibulas insertæ, prothorace breviores, articulis subserratis, apicalibus sensim gracilioribus. Labrum haud visibile. Mandibulæ breves, subtrigonæ, apice acutæ, sub apicem bifidæ, intus edentatæ, basi intus parum dilatatæ. Maxillæ breves, basi extus dilatatæ, lobo apicali elongato simplici longe setoso, lobo interno oblitterato. Palpi maxillares in scapum distinctum inserti, articulis 4; basilibus brevibus subæqualibus, articulo apicali reliquis simul sumtis fere æquali, oblongo-ovali. Mentum brevissimum, transversum, medio marginis antici emarginato. Labium parvum, integrum, setosum. Palpi labiales in scapos laterales insidentes, 3-articulati, articulo ultimo majori, paullo curvato et precedentibus parum crassiori. Prothorax oblongus, angulis omnibus obtusis, disco 4-carinato. Elytra prothorace vix latiora oblonga, parallela, basi truncata punctata; apice rotundata. Pedes breves, crassi, tibiis ad apicem bicalcaratis, calcari uno in pedibus anticis valde elongato, tarsis angustis, valde setosis, articulo 3tio obcordato. Abdomen e segmentis quinque æqualibus constans.

This insect has so singular a facies, that its real affinities might be easily overlooked. Thus in its general shape, colour and remarkably sculptured prothorax, it bears a strong primâ facie resemblance to *Rhysodes* and the allied genera; yet its more important characters prove that, notwithstanding the shortness of the antennæ, its legitimate position is amongst the Longicorn beetles, and amongst these I know no other insects towards which it approaches more closely than to *Parandra* and *Spondylis*.

The general character of the underside of the head and trophi is essentially that of the Longicorn beetles, but the carinated head, and serrated antennæ attenuated to the tip, as well as the large hooked spur of the fore tibiæ and the very short hind legs, are especially characteristic. The tarsi are strictly pseudo-tetramericous, the third joint being heart-shaped, with the real fourth joint very minute and fixed in the deep impression of the preceding joint; the terminal joint is nearly as long as all the preceding joints taken together. The elytra are $2\frac{1}{2}$ times longer

than wide, and the apex of the prosternum is deflexed, and extends in a rather narrow carina between the anterior coxæ, scarcely reaching backwards beyond the latter; the mesosternum is simple. The mandibles are bifid at the tip, but the under tooth is scarcely visible when seen from above. The anterior surface of each of the joints of the antennæ (after the second) is impressed and covered with a papillose membrane, and the tibia are furnished with two spurs, one of which in the fore legs is nearly as long as the basal joint of the tarsus; on the other feet they are of equal size.

With the typical *Cucujidae* (with which it has been regarded as allied) this insect possesses but little real affinity, as may be seen by consulting my illustrations of a paper on the relations of the genus *Clinidium*, published in the last volume of the Zoological Journal, whereas the details of *Spondylis*, there given (Pl. XLVII. Supp. fig. 8), are much nearer in affinity. There are two remarkable genera represented with their details in my "Cabinet of Oriental Entomology," Pl. XLI. fig. 6 and 7, under the names of *Prionophora* and *Petalophora*, also of doubtful relationship, which it will be serviceable to compare with the insect before us, nor must *Trictenotoma* and *Hypocephalus* be overlooked.

Erichsonia dentifrons, Westw. (Pl. XXII. fig. 2, and details.)

E. castanea, nitida, rude punctata, capite antice longitudinaliter 4-carinata, carinis intermediis contiguis; pronoto etiam 4-carinato, carinis lateralibus ex angulis anticis fere ad marginem posticum suboblique extensis, intermediis antice et postice abbreviatis; elytris pallidioribus, nitidis, irregulariter punctatis, lateribus setosis.

Long. corp. lin. $5\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat in Mexico.

In Mus. Chevrolat, etiam olim in Mus. Dupont, Parisiis.

The Coleopterous insect last described is so singular and interesting in its relations, that I have not hesitated to depart from the ordinary rule of Entomological nomenclature, by giving to it a generic term, commemorative of the name of an Entomologist of the highest excellence, who has lately been removed from among us. I am well aware of the objections which have been raised against the use of names of individuals as applied to designate insects or other objects of nature, either generically or specifically. Some authors indeed seem to take up a name of this kind in many cases, for want of a better, and therefore we often see

the name of an excellent author applied to a species which is so insignificant and obscure as not to possess characters sufficiently marked to furnish a characteristic specific name. Other authors, again, seem to delight in taking up such commemorative names by way of railleury, or even from spite. Of this latter malappropriation it would be invidious to cite examples, although they are well known to many naturalists and Entomologists.*

The real principle which ought to be our guide, in the application of such names, is admirably expressed in the two following aphorisms of Fabricius. "Nomina trivialia ad clarissimorum virorum memoriam conservandam introducta sancte servanda. Hoc unicum et summum laboris præmium caste dispensandum ad imitamentum et ornamentum Entomologiæ."†

Can it however be said to be an "ornamentum Entomologiæ" to see its nomenclature defiled by instances of bad feeling or worst taste? Are these honorary titles "caste dispensanda" when the names of worthy writers are wilfully conjoined for ever with insignificant species of *Scolopendræ*, spiders, or other venomous or parasitic insects? I am quite willing to believe, that in many cases an author has been anxious to confer a distinction on his fellow labourer by such a step, but his judgment has been at fault, and in some cases his desire to please has proved a source of annoyance and ridicule. The Fabrician rule does not appear to me sufficiently strong in this case. It merely says, "Scopoli hic nomina trivialia araneorum recepit, at minus placent, araneorum species luridæ ingratae nec adhuc rite determinatae." I would go much farther, and would erase every commemorative name of this kind, known to have been suggested by the feelings I have above spoken against, and even such as suggest any other idea but that of honour to the person whose name is so commemorated.

Another circumstance connected with the employment of proper names, which does not appear to me to have been sufficiently attended to, is its adoption for all the species throughout certain groups. No one advocated uniformity more than Linnæus, and his plan of commemorative names is very worthy of being pursued. "Nomina trivialia Papilionum splendorum patronorum fautorumque memoriæ, Pyralidum vero amatorum, Tinearum denique scriptorum dicant a Linné, quem et nos secuti sumus." We know, too, how carefully he followed this system, even in the divisions of his Greeks and Trojan butterflies. How

* See e. g. Smith, *Introd. to Botany*, by Hooker, pp. 189, 190.

† *Philosoph. Entomol.* pp. 118, 119.

irksome is it then to see the mode in which the names of the species of some modern groups are manufactured. Here we see the names of Gods and Heroes, in the nominative case, applied to the most diminutive species, mingled with those commemorative of previous writers or collectors in the nominative or genitive cases, and these again with simple adjectives.

We cannot in these matters do better than follow in the footsteps of the great masters of our science, and therefore it is that I would advise the plan adopted by Mr. Kirby, of distinguishing the names commemorative of Entomological writers by the termination *ella*, and those of collectors by the termination *ana*, or some such like plan.

The employment of these commemorative names for generic purposes has not been carried so far in Zoology as in Botany. That there was a reason for this at first is evident from the words of Fabricius—"Botanica nomina generica hunc in finem introduxerunt, at in Entomologia genera pauciora raroque nova deteguntur."* But Zoologists are now at no loss for new genera, and therefore, except for the sake of preserving the long maintained uniform plan of employing them specifically in Zoology and generically in Botany, there is no good reason why the name of an Entomologist, as well as that of a Botanist, should not be converted into a generic name. If done at all, however, it ought to be confined to notable genera, respecting which there can be no diversity of opinion, and which, from their singularity or beauty, cannot but be retained conspicuously in the system.

Section PHYTOPHAGA.

Family HISPIDÆ.

Genus DIPHYLLOCERA, *Westwood*.

Corpus ovale, antice angustatum, nitido-metallicum, disco elytrorum punctis magnis excavato.

Caput parvum, inerme, irregulare. Labrum parvum, transversum, angulis anticis rotundatum, ciliatum. Mandibulæ parvæ, corneæ, apice acute bidentatæ. Maxillæ parvæ, bilobatæ, lobo externo tenui palpiformi et quasi biarticulato, lobo interno latiori obtuso setoso. Palpi maxillares 4-articulati, articulo basali minimo, 2do et 3tio majoribus, subæqualibus, apice crassioribus; 4to brevi crasso. Antennæ elongatæ, subincrassatæ, extus serratæ, articulis tertio ad 6m sensim externe dilatatis, 8vo, 9mo et 10mo extus valde dila-

* Op. Cit. p. 119.

tatis, ultimo ovali. Mentum parvum, subquadratum, antice parum latius. Labium fere rotundatum, disco elevato minori rotundo. Palpi labiales breves tenues, 3-articulati, articulis longitudine fere æqualibus, intermedio crassiori. Prothorax transverso-quadratus, angulis acutis, lateribus fere parallelis. Elytra subovalia, prothorace latiora, disco punctis magnis excavatis, triplici serie ordinatis. Pedes simplices, satis crassi, tarsi brevibus, latis, articulo 3tio bilobo.

This beautiful insect in some respects approaches the genera *Phyllocharis* and *Eumolpus*, but it seems, on the whole, more nearly related to *Hispa* and its allies.

Diphyllocera gemellata, Westw. (Pl. XXII. fig. 1.)

Viridi-ænea, nitida, purpureo cupreoque tincta, elytris punctis maximis excavatis, triplici serie ordinatis, femoribus castaneis, antennis chalybæis.

Long. corp. lin. 5.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia.

In the British Museum, and in the Museum of the Naval and Military Institution.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES.

Pl. XXII. fig. 1. *Diphyllocera gemellata*.

Fig. 1 *a*, labrum; 1 *b* and 1 *c*, mandibles; 1 *d*, maxilla; 1 *e*, mentum, labium and labial palpi.

Fig. 2. *Erichsonia dentifrons*.

Fig. 2 *a*, head and antenna seen in front; 2 *b*, head seen from above; 2 *c*, head and base of antenna seen from beneath; 2 *d*, head and prothorax seen laterally; 2 *e*, mandible; 2 *f*, maxilla; 2 *g* and 2 *h*, mentum, labium and labial palpi, in different positions; 2 *i*, fore tarsus and tip of tibia.

Fig. 3. *Taphroderes distortus*.

Fig. 3 *a*, left mandible seen sideways; 3 *b*, right mandible seen sideways; 3 *c*, maxilla; 3 *d*, mentum; 3 *e*, abdomen seen from beneath; 3 *f*, head and antenna of female.

Fig. 4. *Prophanes aculeatus*.

Fig. 5. *Prophanes metallescens*.

Fig. 5 *a*, maxilla and mentum, &c.; 5 *b*, antenna; 5 *c*, pro-meso- and metasternums.

Fig. 6. *Platyphanes gibbosus*.

Fig. 6 *a*, body seen sideways; 6 *b*, pro- and mesosternums; 6 *c*, antenna.